

Amendments to the Claims

1.(currently amended) A printer system, comprising:

a first printer that is capable of being in one of a ready state and a not ready state, with respect to processing any incoming print jobs;

a second printer that is capable of being in one of the ready state and the not ready state, wherein the first printer redirects a print job sent to the first printer, to the second printer, when the first printer is in the not ready state; and

a printer administrator that is coupled to the first printer and the second printer by way of a communications network, wherein the printer administrator is notified by the first printer as to any print job redirections made by the first printer.

2.(canceled)

3.(original) A printer system, comprising:

a first printer that is capable of being in one of a ready state and a not ready state, with respect to processing any incoming print jobs, wherein the not ready state includes at least a first non-recoverable error sub-state;

a second printer,

wherein the first printer redirects a print job sent to the first printer, to the second printer, when the first printer is in the first non-recoverable error sub-state.

4.(original) The print system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a third printer,

wherein the not ready state also includes a second non-recoverable error sub-state, and

wherein the first printer redirects a print job sent to the first printer, to the third printer, when the first printer is in the second non-recoverable error sub-state.

5.(original) The printer system according to claim 3, further comprising:

a printer administrator that is coupled to the first printer and the second printer by way of a communications network,

Response To Office Action

Serial No. 09/986,608

Attorney Docket No. 10014400-1

-2-

wherein the printer administrator is notified by the first printer as to any print job redirections made by the first printer.

6.(currently amended) A printer system, comprising:

a first printer having a first set of printing capabilities, the first printer in a ready state; and

a second printer having a second set of printing capabilities different from greater than the first set of printing capabilities, the second printer in a ready state,

wherein the first printer includes a processor for reading information contained in a print job sent to the first printer, and

wherein the first printer redirects the print job to the second printer when the information contained in the print job is such that the capabilities of the first printer will not allow it to properly perform the print job while the capabilities of the second printer will allow it to properly perform the print job.

7.(original) The printer system according to claim 6, further comprising:

a printer administrator that is coupled to the first printer and the second printer by way of a communications network,

wherein the printer administrator is notified by the first printer as to any print job redirections made by the first printer.

8.(canceled)

9.(currently amended) A method of printing a job on one of a plurality of network printers coupled to a network, comprising:

receiving, by a first of the network printers, a print job;

determining, by the first of the network printers, a current operating state of the first of the network printers, the current operating state being either a first state or a second state; and

routing, by the first of the network printers, the print job to a second of the network printers when the operating state is in the first state; and

the first of the network printers notifying a printer administrator when the first of the network printers routes the print job to the second of the network printers.

Response To Office Action

Serial No. 09/986,608

Attorney Docket No. 10014400-1

-3-

10.(original) The method according to claim 9, further comprising:
executing the print job, by the first of the network printers, when the operating state of the first of the network printers is in the second state,
wherein the print job is not routed to the second of the network printers when the operating state of the first of the network printers is in the second state.

11.(original) The method according to claim 10, wherein the first state is a Not Ready to Process Incoming Print Jobs state, and
wherein the second state is a Ready to Process Incoming Print Jobs state.

12.(original) A method of printing a job on one of a plurality of network printers coupled to a network, comprising:
receiving, by a first of the network printers, a print job;
determining, by the first of the network printers, a current operating state of the first of the network printers, the current operating state including at least one state corresponding to a non-recoverable error state; and
routing, by the first of the network printers, the print job to a second of the network printers when the operating state is the non-recoverable error state.

13.(original) The method according to claim 12, further comprising:
executing the print job, by the first of the network printers, when the operating state of the first of the network printers is in a state other than the non-recoverable error state,
wherein the print job is not routed to the second of the network printers when the operating state of the first of the network printers is in the state other than the non-recoverable error state.

14.(canceled)

15.(new) The print system according to claim 3, wherein the at least a first non-recoverable error sub-state comprises a page too complex sub-state or a memory out sub-state.

Response To Office Action
Serial No. 09/986,608
Attorney Docket No. 10014400-1

-4-

16.(new) The method according to claim 12, wherein the at least one state corresponding to a non-recoverable error state comprises a page too complex state or a memory out state.

17.(new) A method of printing a job on one of a plurality of network printers coupled to a network, comprising:

a first network printer, in a ready state having first printing capabilities, reading information contained in a print job; and

the first network printer redirecting the print job to a second network printer, in a ready state having second printing capabilities different from the first printing capabilities, when the information contained in the print job is such that the capabilities of the first printer will not allow it to properly perform the print job while the capabilities of the second printer will allow it to properly perform the print job.